

of *Legislative enactments*, which, however, we believe, are not law, to resort to, whenever bank notes of all denominations become irredeemable. We therefore, respectfully recommend the repeal of the restrictions prohibiting the issue or circulation of notes of less denomination than five dollars, now imposed upon all the banks in the State but one.

The objection most commonly urged against the circulation of small notes, is that the larger portion of them is always in the hands of the poorer classes, and persons who have no immediate interest in, and know but little about the situation and credit of the banks. But this objection may easily be avoided; and perhaps it is due to the part of the community named, that their interests in the circulation should be specially protected. This might be done by requiring the banks, under all circumstances, to redeem their smaller issues with specie, under the penalty of *absolute forfeiture of their charters*. Other good effects would attend such a provision, as, in case of a suspension of payments generally, the small notes of the banks would continue to circulate, in common with specie, to the exclusion of all irredeemable issues, of like denomination, and enable the community to obtain from the banks a supply of small change, and take away all inducement for hoarding such as might be in circulation.

We are, uncompromisingly, opposed to an irredeemable paper currency; and were we not assured that the Banks in this State were forced to a suspension of specie payments, in common with those in other States, by a forced and unnatural state of things, brought about by measures of the General Government, which they had not the power to prevent, nor in time to counteract, we should be disposed to recommend and pursue the most rigorous measures against them. But, under the full persuasion that they were reluctantly forced into that measure by the pressure thus brought upon them, and, above all, that the interests of the community were promoted by its adoption, under the circumstances then existing, we have been much gratified at the patient acquiescence of the public, in the unavoidable inconveniences and perplexities resulting from it. We have reason to believe that the Directors of the Banks in this State, have acted under a proper sense of their responsibilities and duties, with the steady purpose of returning, as speedily as possible, consistent with the interests of the community and their own safety and permanent credit, to the redemption of their engagements, and their accustomed mode of business. If our impressions of their conduct and the information we have received, be correct, they will at no very distant day be able to resume and maintain specie payments, let the course of the General Government towards them be what it may; although it is manifestly in the power of that Government, in the collection and disbursements of its large revenues, to do much in aid of their efforts, or to embarrass, retard and discredit them—by refusing to receive their issues.

And should, what is commonly denominated the Sub-Treasury Sys-